

Missouri Assessment Program
Spring 2004

Communication Arts

Anchor Pages for Released Items

Grade 7

- 13** How does the author's use of quotations from the students in "Swamp Safari" make the article more interesting? Use details and/or examples from the article to support your explanation.

The use of quotations makes the story more interesting because the students were actually there. I get to hear a persons, that is near my ages, opinions. When I heard Chris say, "It is like coca cola." I thought I would probly think the same thing.

Score Pt. 2

The response includes a reasonable explanation of the role of the quotations using two details (students were actually there/get to hear the opinion of a person near my age and, "It is like coca cola.") as support.

1165373107

- 13** How does the author’s use of quotations from the students in “Swamp Safari” make the article more interesting? Use details and/or examples from the article to support your explanation.

They are kinda by our age so we can relate to them.

Score Pt. 1

The response includes a reasonable explanation of the role of the quotations using one detail from the article as support.

1164638931

- 13** How does the author’s use of quotations from the students in “Swamp Safari” make the article more interesting? Use details and/or examples from the article to support your explanation.

The quotations make it seem funnier to me.

Score Pt. 0

The response does not include a reasonable explanation of the role of the quotations.

1164410574

- 15** Imagine your teacher has asked you to write a letter to your class in which you explain the main points of the article. Use details and/or examples from the article to support the ideas in your letter.

Dear Classmates,

After getting used to being surrounded by alligators we had so much fun! It wasn't mucky & gross like we thought. It was like a big huge zoo, just without cages. Every once in a while a big mat of decayed plants will float up, & when plants start growing on them it looks like land, so watch out! It's really peaceful, & there's barely any noise. It's so much fun!

Love,

Score Pt. Part A: 2 Part B: 1

Part A: The response includes a complete and reasonable explanation of the main points.

Part B: The letter contains at least three elements: salutation, indentation, written in appropriate point of view, closing, and signature.

1164280656

- 15** Imagine your teacher has asked you to write a letter to your class in which you explain the main points of the article. Use details and/or examples from the article to support the ideas in your letter.

Dear seventh grade,

I am writing to explain the main points of the article that I read. Some main points are that American alligators can grow up to 16-feet or a truck. More than 234 species of birds make the swamp there home.

sincerely,

Score Pt. Part A: 1 Part B: 1

Part A: The response includes a partial explanation of the main points.

Part B: The letter contains at least three elements: salutation, indentation, written in appropriate point of view, closing, and signature.

1165677188

- 15** Imagine your teacher has asked you to write a letter to your class in which you explain the main points of the article. Use details and/or examples from the article to support the ideas in your letter.

Dear Class,

this trip was amazing we encountered all sorts of animals it was fun

Sincerely,

Score Pt. Part A: 0 Part B: 1

Part A: The response is too minimal.

Part B: The letter contains at least three elements:
salutation, indentation, written in appropriate point of
view, closing, and signature.

1164880907

Missouri Assessment Program
Spring 2004

Communication Arts

Rangefinders for Released Writing Prompt

Grade 7

Writing

Directions

Now you will write a paper in response to a writing prompt. First, read the prompt in the box below.

Then use the separate paper your teacher has given you for your prewriting activity (such as brainstorming, listing, freewriting, clustering, mapping, or drawing).

After you finish your prewriting activity, write your first draft on the separate paper your teacher has given you. Look back at your prewriting activity for ideas.

Writing Prompt

The passages you read involve individuals who have adventures. Write a paper to your classmates in which you describe a job that includes elements of adventure. Explain what makes this job adventurous.

My friends and I have a job to do. We must go to the Australian zoo and find a tiger species. This will be a very adventurous job because it could be dangerous, fun, and we must travel across the ocean to get to Australia.

When my friends and I arrive in Australia, we are absolutely exhausted! As we came from Africa, we saw many mammals swimming in the ocean such as dolphins, blue whales, and a Great White Shark! We still have a very long way to go considering that we are on the coast of Australia and the Australian Zoo is right in the middle of Australia.

Days later, after many plane rides, my friends and I are finally at the Australian Zoo. We are all so excited and thrilled to be there and see so many different and facinating animals, some in cages, some out of cages!

My friends and I enter the main chamber of the zoo and notice something. The language that the Australians or "Aussies," which they are called are speaking is much like the language that is spoken in North America. Far out, my friends and I can see people loading up surf boards and swimming equipment. Everyone was leaving for vacation to go toward the coast to swim and surf.

1147017474

The adventure is so exciting now that it is almost unbearable. As we walk along the trails of the Australian Zoo, we begin seeing more and more animals. My favorite was the Kangaroo and the Kada, which are known as marsupials because they carry their young in a pouch. Luckily it is reaching evening time, so it is cooling down. What a scorching day it was for us! My friends and I look up above our heads in the trees and spot baboons, which aren't very nice, and spider monkeys, which we all found adorable.

Finally, after darkness has approached, we see an abandoned cage in the far corner of the zoo. Inside the cage, my friends and I saw the Siberian Tiger, which we were sent to let free.

We all creep out of the zoo after putting the tiger in our van. We are all very thankful that the Siberian Tiger is not aggressive!

We finally reach a lovely, calm area that we think the tiger will enjoy. We let the tiger go, as we were sent to do on our adventurous job. The tiger can now enjoy an enormous area with savanna, grass, and plenty of food to prey on. My friends and I sail back to Africa, where we are congratulated and given awards for a job well done. We are now waiting to be given another adventurous job. The thing that made the job so adventurous is that it was risky to sneak a tiger out of a major zoo without getting caught, and it was also adventurous because the Siberian Tiger could've been dangerous.

3

Doc. ID 1147017474 Score Pt. 4+

Content

- Contains a strong controlling idea (Australian zoo adventure)
- Clearly addresses the topic and provides relevant details (“we still have a long way to go considering that we are ...” and “My friends and I look above our heads in the trees...”).

Organization

- Has an effective beginning, middle, and end. The beginning opens with the characters’ arrival in Australia and describes the setting. The middle details the animals of the zoo. The ending notes the characters’ arrival to the tiger’s cage and the release of the tiger.
- Progresses in a logical order.
- Uses effective cohesive devices such as transitions (when, days later, and finally).
- Uses repetition of a pronoun (we).

Style

- Contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure (“When my friends and I arrive in Australia,...” and “Luckily it is reaching evening time, so...”).
- Uses precise and vivid language (“What a scorching day it was for us!”/”Finally after darkness has approached, we see an abandoned caged in the far corner of the zoo.”/”The tiger can now enjoy an enormous area with savanna, grass, and plenty of food to prey on.”).
- Clearly shows an awareness of purpose (“The thing that made the job so adventurous...”).
- Uses voice (“What a scorching day it was for us!”/”We are all very thankful that the Siberian tiger is not aggressive!”) as a writing technique.
- Uses point of view (“When my friends and I arrive...”).
- Uses imagery (“Finally, after darkness has approached...”).

Conventions

- Contains few errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling (absolutly, facinating, kaola, congradulated).

4

Folks think mountain climbing is all fun and play, but it isn't. I mean you could freeze to death, fall off a mountain, get frostbite and get crushed by giant rocks. Every day people climb mountains and don't know what it is like up there.

Being a professional mountain climber is very adventurous, but it is also dangerous. Like the sharp rocks, you can fall and break bones, die, or stop yourself. It takes time to master climbing those rocks. Also they sometimes can be covered in ice and snow.

Another thing is the height of those mountains. I mean if you are afraid of heights you shouldn't be climbing any mountain very soon. Those mountains are about thousand feet high and those are the smaller ones!!! There is no way you want to fall off one of those things ever. You know if you survive the fall you still are going to have a very bad injury, also there might be more than one.

Also the weather can be murder. It could be fine a second and horrible the other. Also every mountain's weather is different. Some can be icy cold winds and snow, while others are have blazing hot heat from the sun. You could freeze to death or die of heatstroke. The winds alone can push you off a mountain.

A mountain isn't like a movie, you can't climb it bare handed like Tom Cruz. That is just plain out idiotic. All real climbers know the first rule is to always have the proper tools. Also never climb alone, always have a team or group of climbers that know what they are doing on the mountain. Only exception is if you are a tourist and don't have a clue what is going on. Then you need a professional guide, not climber. Only be in a team if you are as good as the team itself. Always follow the rules and have fun on any mountain there is.

11471084160

Doc. ID 1147084160 Score Pt. 4

Content

- Contains a strong controlling idea (mountain climbing).
- Clearly addresses the topic and provides specific and relevant details (“Like the sharp rocks, you can fall and break bones...”/Also every mountain’s weather is different...”/Also never climb alone...”).

Organization

- Has an effective beginning, middle, and end. The beginning discusses the dangers of mountain climbing. The middle details weather hazards while climbing. The conclusion provides warnings for beginning climbers.
- Progresses in a logical order.
- Uses effective cohesive devices such as transitions (also, another thing, then).

Style

- Contains sentences that are clear and show some variety in structure (“Being a proffesonal mountain climber is a very adventurous, but it is also dangerous.”/Folks think mountain climbing...”).
- Uses precise language (...freeze to death, fall off a mountain, get frostbite, and get crushed by giant rocks.”).
- Uses vivid language (sharp rocks, giant rocks, icy cold winds, blazing hot heat).
- Clearly shows an awareness of audience (“All real climbers know the first rule is ...”/Then you need a proffesonal guide...”).
- Uses writing techniques such as metaphor (“Also the weather can be murder.”) and voice (“A mountain isn’t like a movie, you can’t climb it bare handed like Tom Cruiz. That is just plain out idiotic.”).

Conventions

- Contains some errors in grammar/usage (“Some can be icy cold winds and snow, while others are have blazing hot heat...”), punctuation (“You know if you survive the fall you still are going to have a very bad injury, also...”), capitalization, and spelling (proffesonal, stap, thoose, and afaird).

A Day in the Emergency Room

Have you ever been on an adventure? Was fun, scary, or exciting? If it was all of the above then you know how a doctor feels that works in the emergency room.

I think being an emergency room doctor is a very adventurous job. You never know if your going to have an easy day or a day bombarded with people who act like a bunch of wild elephants. When someone comes in they are usually delirious, scared, and kind of wild. They are wild so the doctor has to calm them down in order to make them better. The patients life is in the doctor's hands. People that come into the emergency room are usually hurt pretty bad and so you must be very alert and to be alert you can't be panicked, because your patient probably already is panicked seeing the doctor panicked wouldn't help.

Another reason an emergency room doctor is an adventurous job is because of when they work. They have to get up as soon as their beeper went off. So you could get called anytime 24 hours a day. You could even get a call at the crack of dawn.

The biggest thing that makes an emergency room doctor an adventurous job is why people come in. Emergency room doctors must be highly trained because you don't know why a person may come in. They could have overdosed on something. You could be in the emergency room for something little like breaking a toe. You could even be in there for something big like breaking 30 bones in a car accident.

No matter who you are, what happened, or why your in the emergency room. No matter what the doctors and nurses in the emergency room will do everything in their power to get you back to health. Which my mean you have to go back to school; but appreciate them because their job is quite an adventurous one.

1146904764

Doc. ID 114690476 Score Pt. 4-

Content

- Contains a strong controlling idea (job as an emergency room doctor).
- Clearly addresses the topic and provides specific and relevant details (“So you get called anytime 24 hours a day.”/“They could have overdosed or something.”/“You could even be there for something big like breaking 30 bones.”).

Organization

- Has an effective beginning, middle, and end. The beginning discusses the erratic nature of the job. The middle details when they work and why patients are admitted. The ending provides concluding thoughts.
- Progresses in a logical order.
- Uses effective cohesive devices such as transitions (another reason and the biggest thing).

Style

- Contains sentences that are clear and varied in structure (“Have you ever been on an adventure?”/“When someone comes in they are usually delirious...”).
- Uses some vivid and precise language (bombarded with people, the crack of dawn, highly trained, overdosed).
- Clearly shows an awareness of audience (“No matter who you are, what happened...”).
- Uses a simile (“...people who act like a bunch of wild elephants.”) as a writing technique.

Conventions

- Contains some errors in grammar/usage (“Was fun, scary, or exciting?”/your instead of you are), punctuation (“People that come into the emergency room are usually hurt pretty bad and so you must...”), capitalization, and spelling (probably, appreciate, happend).

Herpetologist

What I will be telling you about is a great job for lovers of reptiles and amphibians. You see the name of this job is a herpetologist, in other words..people who work with snakes, alligator, and frogs, you know that kind of stuff.

What herpetologists have to put up with isn't every day work Like on some occasions they, have to go and get reptiles or amphibioins from peoples houses. This can be dangerous, like I remember when I tried to catch a garden snake, tough work I tell ya, I ended up getting bit, think gosh it wasn't poiseness.

Herpetologists also go out and just look for animals (with permisson). This can also be dangerous work.

One famous Herpetologist I know of is Jeff Corwin, you've might of seen his show the Jeff Corwin Experience. He does all the stuff I told you about. Like this one time he was looking for a spitting cobra, this certain kind of snake is highly venomous. If it spitts venom in your eye you would be blind. He ended up finding it.

Do you remember earlier in the story I told you about alligators ya, well heres the info. Alligators can be found living in lakes and even in the ocean. If you were a herpetologist you'd travel the world in search for these amazing creatures.

1147111429

Doc. ID 1147111429 Score Pt. 3+

Content

- Contains a strong controlling idea (job as a herpetologist).
- Addresses the topic and uses relevant details have to go and get reptiles from peoples' houses/Jeff Corwin was looking for a spitting cobra/traveling the world in search of creatures).

Organization

- Has a clear beginning and middle. The essay lacks a conclusion. The beginning defines what a herpetologist's duties include. The middle uses Jeff Corwin as an example of their duties. The last paragraph mentions alligators, but does not create a unifying conclusion.
- Generally progresses in a logical order.

Style

- Contains sentences that are clear and show some variety in structure ("If it spitts venom in your eye you would be blind"/"Do you remember earlier in the story...").
- Uses some vivid language (highly venomous, amazing creatures).
- Uses voice ("Do you remember earlier in the story I told you about alligators ya,..."/tough work I tell ya") and point of view ("...like I remember when I tried to catch a Garden Snake...").

Conventions

- Contains some errors in grammar/usage (think gosh it wasn't poiseness, you've might of seen his show), punctuation ("This can be dangerous, like I remember when...), capitalization, and spelling (amphibions, poiseness, spitts) that are not distracting to the reader.

One job that would include elements of nature could be a Wild Life Photographer. A Wildlife Photographer goes out into the wilderness and takes pictures of animals and wildlife. This job might be dangerous because they have to get close to the animals to take a picture of them, and some of the animals might attack them because they think that the photographer is trying to hurt them. But, there are also advantages of being a Wildlife Photographer. They get to see many fascinating and unique animals that many people won't ever get to see up close. This job is also adventurous. The photographers have to cross the watery Amazon and the rocky Alps, or trudge through the hot Sierra Desert to get the key pictures they are looking for. And I don't think scaling the Alps is very easy or that many people can go out into the desert and survive for a long period of time, even with food and water. Unless they have proper clothing, shelter, and the knowledge to know what to do. Being a photographer would also be a fun job. You would get to travel alot and see the world. This job is probably one of the most fun and adventurous jobs that a person could have.

1146853156

Doc. ID 1146853156 Score Pt. 3

Content

- Contains a controlling idea (job as a wildlife photographer).
- Addresses the topic and uses relevant details (get to see many fascinating and unique animals/you would get to travel a lot/need to have proper clothing and shelter).

Organization

- Has a clear beginning, middle, and abrupt ending. The introduction and the conclusion could be more developed. The beginning defines a wildlife photographer. The middle discusses the dangers and advantages of being a wildlife photographer. The conclusion states that the job would be fun and adventurous.
- Generally progresses in a logical order.
- Paragraphing is weak.
- Minimal use of cohesive devices such as transitions (“unless”) and pronouns (“They get to see...”).

Style

- Contains sentences that are clear and show some variety in structure (“This job might be dangerous because they have to get close to the animals to take a picture of them, and...”/“Being a photographer...”).
- Uses some vivid language (watery Amazon, rocky Alps, trudge through the hot “Sierra” Desert, scaling the Alps).
- Uses point of view (“And I don’t think scaling the Alps is very easy...”) as a writing technique.

Conventions

- Contains few errors in grammar/usage, punctuation (“Unless they have proper clothing, shelter, and the knowledge to know what to do.”), capitalization, and spelling (alot).

Veterinarian

Being a vet can be adventurous at times: It can also be boring at other times. It can be adventurous because you may do something new that you haven't done before.

In the job of being a vet, you will come across a lot of blood. Sorry to say that, but you will. You will also have to have a lot of patience for the animals if they are stubborn. I'm warning you now, if you have a weak stomach, I wouldn't become a vet.

It can be adventurous, like I've already mentioned, by doing something different. Sometimes you go into different towns to go the owner of the animal's house and you're worried that you won't make it on time. Sometimes you won't. Other times, you'll make it but you'll have to put the animal down.

Being a vet can be very rewarding and very sad. But, I guarantee that it will be adventurous. That's what it's like to be a vet.

1147092457

Doc. ID 1147092457 Score Pt. 3-

Content

- Contains a controlling idea (job as a veterinarian).
- Addresses the topic and uses some relevant details (“In the job of being a vet, you will come across a lot of blood.”/You will also have to have a lot of patience for the animals if they become stubborn.”).

Organization

- Has a beginning, middle, and end but could be more developed. The beginning states that being a vet can be adventurous, the middle discusses the advantages and disadvantages of being a vet, and the conclusion reemphasizes that being a vet can be adventurous.
- Uses paragraphing.
- Generally progresses in logical order.

Style

- Contains sentences that are clear and show some variety in structure (“In the job of being a vet,...”/Other times, you’ll make it but you’ll have to...”).
- Uses some imprecise language (sometimes you go into different towns).
- Shows an awareness of audience (“I’m warning you now, if you...”) and purpose (“But I guarantee that it will be adventurous...”).

Conventions

- Contains few errors in grammar/usage (havent, youre), punctuation, capitalization, and/or spelling.

I think being a mailman is pretty adventurous.
Because he goes to different places and delivers mail to
other people. Some times he/she might get chased by a
dog, and hopes over a feens and rips his pants. And the
bad thing is he steel has to deliver the mail. or Walking
in the hot sun thirsty, sweaty and steal delivers the mail.
And even when its cold they are freezing and getting
frost bites but they steal deliver the mail. What if it was
you would you deliver mail when its really hot or really
cold? I wouldnt want to do that and get blesters on my
feet every single day. Mail man should have alot of
friends because they deliver mail to the same people
almost every day. So I think being a mail man would
really be adventurous.

1147061212

Doc. ID 1147061212 Score Pt. 2+

Content

- Addresses the topic (job as a mailman).
- Contains some details that are relevant (walking in the hot sun/chased by a dog/blisters on your feet).

Organization

- Has evidence of a beginning, middle, and end but lacks development. The beginning states that being a mailman is adventurous. The middle discusses the disadvantages and advantages of being a mailman. The conclusion reiterates that being a mailman is an adventurous job.
- Shows evidence of paragraphing.
- Shows some progression in a logical order but could be better. The paper moves from being chased by a dog to dealing with the weather to having a lot of friends.

Style

- Contains sentences that are generally clear but lack variety in structure.
- Uses some vivid language (“Walking in the hot sun thirsty, sweaty...”/freezing and getting frost bites”).
- Uses some imprecise language (other people, sometimes he/she might get chased by a dog, the bad thing is, almost everyday).
- Uses point of view (“I wouldnt want to do that and get blesters on my feet...”).
- Shows some awareness of audience (“What if it was you would you delivere mail when its really hot...”).

Conventions

- Contains errors in grammar/usage, punctuation, capitalization (Being, Because), and spelling (adventureous, diffrent, some times, hopes, feens, steel,

A alligators wrestleing because you would have to
wrestle a alligaors to the ground. In the water alot of
thing's could go wrong, you could get your arm bite off
or your leg bite off. Our a lot of thing can go right too.
You could wrestle the alligator to the ground and win.
Back to the mishap's you could get bite and have go to
the Hospital and pay a big bill for stiches, our you could
even die of to much blood loss and pay a big funeral bill
for at least 3,000 dollars. Our you could make a jod out
of wrestleing alligators and get payed 200 dollars for
each alligator you wrestle. You could wrestle 2 or 3 a
day and make 4 to 6 Hundred dollars a day it is not
bad.

1147097658

Doc. ID 1147097658 Score Pt. 2

Content

- Addresses the topic (job as an alligator wrestler).
- Uses some relevant details (you could get your arm bit off/you may have to pay a big bill for stitches).

Organization

- Has evidence of a beginning and middle but lacks a conclusion. The introduction is only one sentence. The paper lacks development.
- No evidence of paragraphing.
- Contains some sense of direction but lacks focus (“back to the mishaps”).
- Lacks cohesive devices.

Style

- Contains sentences that are generally clear but lacks variety in structure.
- Does not use writing techniques.
- Shows some awareness of audience (“You could wrestle 2 or 3 a day and make 4 to 6 hundred...”).
- Uses some imprecise language (a lot of things could go wrong).

Conventions

- Contains errors in grammar/usage (“a alligator, thing’s, our instead of or, to much blood), punctuation (“In the water a lot of thing’s could go wrong, you could get your arm), capitalization (Hospital), and spelling (bite instead of bit, stiches, jod, wrestleing, payed) that are distracting to the reader.

Jobs With Adventures

The way of having a job with adventures is to hard and scarry. They also have to risk their lives in going and finding a dangerous animal. Sometimes they have to work day and night. What is scarry about it is that, you need to sleep in the wild. Sleeping in the wild could sometimes be a problem because there could be a poisenes animal that could crawl into the tent and bite you. For example you could get poisen and you could be sick by morning time and there will not be a doctor near by to help you.

The End.

1146853345

Doc. ID 1146853345 Score Pt. 2-

Content

- Addresses the topic (job with adventures) and uses some relevant details (risk lives in going and finding an animal/sleeping in the wild/no doctors nearby to help).
- No clear mention of what job is being described.

Organization

- Has evidence of a beginning and middle, but lacks a conclusion. The introduction is only one sentence. The middle discusses the dangers of the job but lacks development.
- Shows evidence of paragraphing.
- Seems awkward and lacks cohesion.

Style

- Contains sentences that are generally clear but lack a variety in structure.
- Uses imprecise language (sometimes, “The way of having a job with adventures”).
- Does not use writing techniques.
- Shows some awareness of audience (“For example you could get poisen and you could be sick...”) and purpose (“...having a job with adventures is to hard and scarry.”).

Conventions

- Contains errors in grammar/usage (to hard and scarry, you could get poisen), punctuation, capitalization, and spelling (scarry, poisenes, near by).

Cave hunting is an adventure Because you explore the cave you find. Caves have Bats that only come out at night Some caves are underground the most famous caves are Carls Bad Caverens, and Mamoth Cave in Kentucky. There's alot of caves every where, that's why cave hunting is so adventurous.

1147038233

Doc. ID 1147038233 Score Pt. 1+

Content

-Addresses the topic (cave hunting) with relevant details (caves have bats that come out at night/Carlsbad Caverns/Mammoth Cave).

Organization

-Has a beginning, middle, and end. The beginning and end are each only one sentence. The paper lacks development.

-Shows evidence of paragraphing.

-Attempts to progress in logical order. The paper lacks focus (moves from bats come out at night to some caves are underground to the most famous caves). The ideas are listed with no further development.

Style

-Contains sentences that are simple and lack variety in structure.

-Uses imprecise language ("There's alot of caves every where").

-Does not use writing techniques.

-Shows little awareness of audience or purpose.

Conventions

-Contains errors in grammar/usage ("There's alot of caves every where"), punctuation (Caves have bats that only come out at night Some..."), capitalization (Because, Bats), and spelling (alot, every where).

Deep sea diving is an adventure because you can see animals & plants you don't see very often. It is also adventurous because it dangerous. You can run out of air. Other than that, it's a job full of adventure.

1147084174

Doc. ID 1147074174 Score Pt. 1

Content

-Addresses the topic (deep sea diving) but lacks details.

Organization

-The paper barely gets started. The paper lacks evidence of a middle and ending.

-Shows evidence of paragraphing.

-Attempts to progress in a logical order; however, the last sentence is awkward.

Style

-The sentences lack variety. There are only four sentences.

-Shows little awareness of audience.

-Does not use writing techniques.

Conventions

-Contains an error in grammar/usage ("It is also adventurous because it is dangerous.").

My adventures and I think exciting.

1147103033

Doc. ID 1147103033 Score Pt. 1-

Content/Organization/Style/Conventions

-The paper does not get started. There is no development and insufficient information to determine the direction the paper may go in. The paper consists of one sentence fragment.